

Town of Culpeper's 250th Anniversary: A Celebration to Last All Year!

Planning for the Town of Culpeper's 250th Anniversary is in full swing. The year-long festivities began April 24th during Remembrance Days. A kick-off ceremony was held at the Court House that featured the presentation by Senator Edd Houck and Delegate Ed Scott of the General Assembly Resolution honoring the Town's 250 years. The festivities continue with events like Culpeper Fest on June 4, the Culpeper Soap Box Derby on June 20, and the 4th of July, each celebrating 250 years of Culpeper history!

Everyone is invited to a birthday party for the Town on June 22 as we welcome 2,000 bicyclists participating in the Bike Virginia "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" ride. The Town of Culpeper will host a block party at the Depot featuring beach music by the Rhondels. Bring your appetite for dinner at one of the Downtown restaurants or something yummy from food vendors hosted by Culpeper Renaissance. The Chamber of Commerce cools things down with beverages in the Beer & Wine Garden. And what would a birthday party be without a cake? The Culpeper Star-Exponent will bring a cake of historic proportions for all to share.



www.culpeper250th.org

Mark your calendar now for the big Anniversary Celebration Weekend September 18-20. The weekend will include old time games and picnic at Yowell Meadow Park, a garden & art show on historic East Street, the "Coleman Street" Parade, and the Lord & Lady Culpeper Historic Costume Ball on Saturday. On Sunday, take a look at the importance of religion in the area, hosted by the Culpeper Ministerial Association. In the afternoon, the Museum of Culpeper History will host a special event and an ice cream social.

As you can see, Culpeper is THE place to be! With great things happening all year, there are many opportunities to get involved and give back to the community. If you'd like to help in the planning stages, work at an information table, arrange flowers, scoop ice cream, or any of a thousand other things on any of these events, contact Beth Burns in the Culpeper Department of Tourism for information. Call 540-727-0611 or email director@visitculpeperva.com

To learn more about 250th anniversary events, go to www.culpeper250th.org For information on other Culpeper events throughout the year, go to www.visitculpeperva.com



2009 season **every Saturday** from May through October.

Be sure to stop by the parking lot at East Davis Street and Commerce Street Saturday mornings between 7:30 a.m. and noon. Pick up locally grown produce while supporting regional farmers.

Tom Hennaman will return for a third season as the market manager. Tom has created an exciting atmosphere. Local artists display hand-made arts and crafts for all to enjoy, and local musicians play in the background, while familiar faces peruse the market in search of fresh produce, cheeses and meats.

This season's market has grown to more than 30 full and part-time participants. There is no doubt that the Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market has become a destination on Saturday morn-

Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market is OPEN

The **Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market** sponsored by Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. is open for the

ings, creating quite an attraction for the downtown district.

For a pleasant Saturday morning experience, stroll through the market for locally grown produce, vibrant flowers, delicious baked goods, farm fresh eggs, and much more, while meeting your neighbors.

Buy Fresh! Buy Local! You'll be amazed by what's around! For more information please contact Culpeper Renaissance at 540-825-4416, and be sure to visit our website at www.culpeperdowntown.com





3rd Thursday Summer Concert Series Culpeper Downtown



Key West Band – June 18

Beginning the festivities on **June 18**, **Key West Band** promises to bring a high-energy night of Caribbean influenced music, transforming downtown Culpeper into an island style party. Key West Band has been voted #1 Party Band by the *Roanoke Times* and has been voted Best Local Band by *Roanoker Magazine* seven times. With a large supply of Jimmy Buffett songs, as well as Reggae, Creole, Latin and a number of original songs, this is one concert you will not want to miss!

Join us **July 16** for **The Embers**, one of the greatest Beach Music bands to come out of the Carolinas. For decades The Embers have been making music by playing a mix of rhythm and blues & heart and soul. To say "The Embers play Beach Music" is an understatement. After seventeen albums and numerous single releases, The Embers are one of the most popular bands, as well as one of the most active groups in the country. They've been inducted into the South Carolina Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame and were named North Carolina's Official Musical Ambassadors. The Embers have opened for the Rolling Stones, done commercials for Budweiser, played the Olympics and President Clinton's inauguration.



Big Ray and the Kool Kats—August 20

August 20 will feature Big Ray and the Kool Kats with the ability to perform literally thousands of songs. From jazz & big band swing, Motown, beach and Top 40, Big Ray and the Kool Kats truly has a little something for everyone. A crisp 4 piece rhythm section, 4 sizzling horn players, multiple lead male and female vocalists, all combine to promise an exciting non-stop show. The band is led by trumpeter Ray Caddell, whose live and recording credits include appearances with Tony Bennett, Frank Sinatra, Natalie Cole and dozens of other national acts and Broadway shows.

New for 2009! September 17 will feature a Battle of the Bands with a focus on regional talent. Look for details and line up in the coming months.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase at the concerts. Admission is \$7 at the gate for those 21 and over. Concerts begin at 5:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Advance tickets are available for \$5 and may be purchased up until the day before the event at the following locations: all StellarOne offices throughout Culpeper, Madison, Orange and Locust Grove, The Museum of Culpeper History at 803 South Main Street, the Culpeper Renaissance office located at 127 West Davis Street and Pepperberries at 102 North Main Street.

Come and enjoy beautiful downtown Culpeper for great times and the great sounds of **Key West Band, The Embers, Big Ray and the Kool Kats, and many talented regional artists**. All are welcome! Bring friends, family & a lawn chair! Please remember— no pets and no coolers, but picnic baskets are welcome! For more information please contact Culpeper Renaissance at (540) 825-4416 or criinfo@culpeperdowntown.com or visit us on the web at www.culpeperdowntown.com



Dance with me....

The **Annual 3rd Thursday Summer Concert Series**, sponsored by **Culpeper Renaissance, Inc.** a downtown development organization, is quickly approaching. The series will take place the months of June, July, and August, with a new September concert added for 2009. Join us in downtown Culpeper directly in front of the Depot on Commerce Street from 5 pm until 9 pm for some great summer fun!



The Embers— July 16

www.culpeper4thofjuly.com



Culpeper's 4th of July Celebration –
A day filled with patriotism, community
spirit, and of course FIREWORKS!
And this year's event is extra-special as we
celebrate the Town's 250th anniversary.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8am	FREEDOM 5-K RACE - begins at Gold's Gym
9am - 3pm	YOUTH SOCCER & LITTLE LEAGUE -
10am-3pm	CULPEPER RENAISSANCE CAR & BIKE SHOW
All Day -	LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT - Yowell Meadow Park
Noon	PATRIOTIC PROGRAM AT THE COURT HOUSE
Noon to 4 pm	STATE THEATRE OPEN HOUSE
4 pm	INDEPENDENCE DAY - MAIN STREET PARADE
4:30 pm	CULPEPER OLYMPICS - Yowell Meadow Park
4:30 pm	DINNER AND MUSIC IN THE PARK
	featuring <i>Dark Hollow Bluegrass Band</i>
At Dark:	FIREWORKS!

**CULPEPER'S GRANDEST
 CELEBRATION NEEDS
 YOU!**

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

WON'T YOU JOIN THE CELEBRATION?

Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are now available. Volunteer to assist with the day's events; or support this event by becoming a Sponsor. Your sponsorship will assist in continuing this community event.

If you would like to volunteer to wear a costume in the parade, hand out water at the 5K race, or help with the many other activities, please let us know by contacting us at info@culpeper4thofjuly.com

The Culpeper Festival Committee is a 501C-3 organization, so your donations are tax deductible. Please obtain and fill out a Sponsorship form and mail your donation to the Culpeper Festival Committee at P.O. Box 1235, Culpeper, VA 22701.





May is Older Americans Month: Living Today for a Better Tomorrow

Every year as we celebrate Older Americans Month, the Aging Together partnership welcomes the opportunity to highlight the steps we can take to help older Culpeper citizens experience improved quality of life. This year’s theme, “Living Today for a Better Tomorrow,” is focused on offering older adults the tools they need to make healthy decisions. Two important tools are awareness and education. This is a good time to dispel a commonly held myth about illness and disability - poor health is not an inevitable consequence of aging. Many illnesses, disabilities, and sometimes even death which are associated with chronic disease, are preventable.

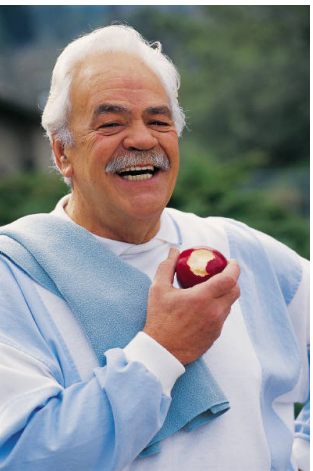
Ayn Welleford, PhD, Director of Virginia Commonwealth University’s Department of Gerontology, spoke on March 25 about this subject at a seminar hosted by Aging Together. Dr. Welleford pointed out that while every life stage has its developmental gains and losses, certain symptoms are not necessarily normal parts of aging. In fact they are “yellow flags” indicating issues that should be addressed. Dr. Welleford and other researchers in Gerontology and Geriatrics confirm that many illnesses often attributed to “old age” can be prevented or treated. Regardless of how old you are—child, adult or senior-- the way you live right now makes a large difference in your quality of life as you age.

Nearly 40% of deaths in America can be attributed to poor health habits, such as lack of physical exercise, poor eating habits and smoking. We can all prevent or control chronic disease by adopting healthy habits, such as exercising regularly, maintaining a healthy diet and ceasing tobacco use.

It is difficult to exaggerate the benefits of regular physical activity, because there are so many. They include weight control, healthy bones, muscles and joints, arthritis relief, reduced symptoms of anxiety and depression, and more. You do not have to exercise strenuously to benefit, and exercise can be safe for people of all age groups. Older adults can greatly benefit from a regular exercise routine that includes strength, balance, stretching and endurance exercises.



Poor health does not Have to accompany aging.



Good nutrition is vital

Good nutrition is also vital in maintaining optimal health. Reducing saturated fats and eating a balanced diet of fruits, vegetables, and grains can help you, whatever your age, get on the right track to staying healthy. That’s a good reason to check out the downtown Culpeper Farmer’s Market every Saturday (see page 27).

It is just as important to maintain good mental health. Nearly 20 percent of Americans age 55 and older experience depression and anxiety disorders. Studies have found that participating in social activities in the community can greatly improve mental health. Further research demonstrates a strong relationship between volunteering and good mental health. In fact, volunteering provides older adults with even greater benefits than younger volunteers. If you have a cause or interest close to your heart, check out a local organization that matches your interest and offer to volunteer. Or contact the United Way Volunteer Center or the RRCSB/AAA RSVP program for specific volunteer opportunities here in Culpeper.

This year Aging Together’s Community Conversation on Aging will address the question - *What makes a healthy community in which to live and grow older?* Panelists will share their thoughts on this question from a variety of perspectives including spirituality (Pastor Brad Hales), health (Culpeper Hospital CEO Lee Kirk), business (Culpeper Chamber of Commerce CEO Jim Charapich), and local government (County Administrator Frank Bossio). We will then open the discussion to those present to share their thoughts and ideas. Please join us for this important Community Conversation, Tuesday June 23rd, at the Culpeper Baptist Retirement Community beginning at 7:00 pm.

To learn about how the Aging Together partnership is working to improve quality of life for older adults, call 540-829-6405 or visit our website at www.agingtogether.org
To find out about what the Culpeper County Aging Together team is doing to address local needs contact Jenny Biche at 540-825-7615 or jbiche@agingtogether.org



Live well today. Enjoy the company of others.



Regular physical activity has many benefits



Maintain good mental health

CodeRED Emergency Notification System

Culpeper County and Town officials have implemented an emergency telephone notification system, which allows emergency services personnel the ability to deliver pre-recorded emergency telephone notification or information messages to targeted areas, or the entire County, at a rate of up to 60,000 calls per hour.

The information system would serve during times of County-wide natural disasters, hurricanes, blizzards, or an incident in just one area, such as a gas leak. A limited number of County and Town officials will have the ability to activate the system and determine which areas to call, given the situation.

"This is for emergency notification," Culpeper County Director of Public Safety Communications Steve Basnett said. "This system is designed for any situation where we need to notify the public of either a man-made or natural event, where we need to provide the public information or to take action."

Culpeper County has contracted with Emergency Communications Network, Inc., of Ormond Beach, Fla., for its "CodeRED" high-speed telephone emergency notification services. The system costs \$20,000 in its first year and is being totally funded by a grant from the Department of Homeland Security and administered through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Basnett cautioned that such systems are only as good as the telephone database supporting them. "If your phone number is not in the database, you will not be called," said Basnett. "The CodeRED system is a geographical-based notification system, which means street addresses are needed to select which phone numbers will receive emergency notification calls in any given

situation. The system works fine for cell phones too, but we have to have a street address."

The CodeRED system not only offers faster calling rates and improved message delivery; it gives individuals and businesses the ability to add their own phone numbers directly to the system's telephone database. Basnett emphasized that this is an extremely important feature.

To ensure no one is omitted, Basnett urges all individuals and businesses to log onto Culpeper County's website, WWW.CULPEPERCOUNTY.GOV, and follow the link to the "CodeRED Residential and Business Data Collection" page. This page is available to both TOWN and COUNTY residents. Those without Internet access may call (540)727-7900, Monday through Friday, (8AM-4PM) to give their information over the phone. Required information includes first and last name, street address (physical address, no P.O. boxes), city, state, and zip code, and primary phone number. Additional phone numbers are optional.

No one should automatically assume his or her phone number is included, Basnett said. All businesses should register, as well as all individuals who have unlisted phone numbers, or those who have changed their phone number or address within the last year, or who use a cellular phone as their primary home phone.

"CodeRED gives those who want to be included an easy and secure method for doing so," said Basnett. The information will only be used for emergency notification purposes.

Questions should be directed to the Culpeper County Public Safety Communications Center, 540-727-7900.

Don't be a SUV !

What is a SUV? A Sport Utility Vehicle? No, not this time. Super Useless Vehicle? No. A Standardized Uptake Value? No. A Special Victims Unit? No. That's a SVU. OK! Enough already. So what is a SUV?

A SUV is a Spontaneous Unaffiliated Volunteer, or someone who comes forward to help when an emergency happens, even though they are not part of an emergency response organization. As we saw after 9-11 and Hurricane Katrina, when there is an emergency such as a natural disaster or a terrorist attack, people will want to help. When response organizations are busy responding to an emergency, however, spontaneous volunteers (SUVs) can present more of a problem than a solution.

The people in charge do not know the capabilities of the SUV and don't have the time or resources necessary to verify credentials during an emergency. How would you like to receive medical treatment from someone who "said they are a doctor" but could not provide documentation to prove it? When random volunteers show up during an event, it can be difficult to organize them into a functional organization, coordinate and provide food, shelter, training, and a myriad of other things. Planning is always more effective when you know who will show up.

Are you someone who will want to help out in an emergency? If so, you need to join the Rappahannock-Rapidan Medical Reserve Corps (RRMRC) today. The RRMRC is recruiting volunteers who will be

pre-identified BEFORE an emergency occurs. You do not need medical training to volunteer. We

need 1-2 non-medical volunteers for every medical volunteer. RRMRC volunteers receive training, have their credentials checked, and have a background check BEFORE an emergency, so they are prepared to volunteer if something happens. Currently the RRMRC has 350 volunteers. We need 400-500 more!

Now is the time to become a member of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Medical Reserve Corps. At least sign up and fill out the paperwork. This can be done online at <http://www.vdh.state.va.us/MRC/rrmrc/index.htm> or by calling 540-829-7350 x132 to make arrangements to stop by the office or receive your paperwork in the mail. The RRMRC is willing to come to your place of business, organization or church to give a brief overview of the RRMRC and have your employees/members sign-up. You can get training and volunteer to the extent that meets your schedule. The RRMRC does not require a large time commitment. The most important thing is to sign up and complete the paperwork, so you are pre-identified before an emergency occurs.

Don't be a SUV. Call the RRMRC:

Claudia Vento (540) 829-7350 x132.

**Rappahannock-
Rapidan**

medical
reserve
corps



**Culpeper-Fauquier-Madison
Orange-Rappahannock**

Building Department Safety of Outdoor Structures

With spring finally here and as we de-winterize our homes and properties, we look forward to some quality recreation time outside. For the Building Department, that means focusing on the safety of outdoor structures, that have come to be part of our lives in good weather. Decks, pools, tents, and amusement devices such as the inflatable Moon Bounce afford lots of opportunity to gather together for fun. As your Building Official, I would like you to consider the safety of each of these structures before you use them.

The International Code Council (ICC) Building Safety Week was the first week in May. This year the Virginia Building Code Officials Association (VBCOA) focused on deck safety. As reported by North American Deck and Rail Association, *“The number of deck failures and resulting injuries has been increasing at an alarming rate. Between 2000 and 2006, there have been at least 30 deaths reported as a direct result of deck collapses and more than 75 percent of people on a deck when it collapses are injured or killed, illuminating just how important it is for homeowners to check their deck. There are 40 million decks in the U.S. that are over 20 years old. At a conservative 1 percent, that means 40,000 decks are currently in need of repair or replacement. Taking that estimate to 10 percent brings the total number of unsafe decks to 4 million.”*

Because of the number of **aging decks** in our Town and County, Culpeper County Building Department decided to use the month of May to promote deck safety. All during May, our Building Inspectors performed courtesy safety inspections on existing decks. For new deck projects, to promote safe building practices, we have taken some steps to shorten the permit process and now offer the Deck Package. This is an all encompassing permit and code compliant prescriptive method on deck construction. There is a catch; the package only pertains to one level, simple span sun decks without a roof. For more complex decks and decks with roofs, plans will have to be submitted and reviewed. The advantage of the Deck Package is that the permit is issued while you wait.

Swimming pools and summer just go together. Swimming pools and safety must go together. If you are planning a swimming pool it is best to ASK whether you need a permit. Usually a permit is required. If in any doubt, please call us to check. If you purchase a pool that meets any **one** of the following criteria, a permit is required: if the size is 24” or greater in depth, greater than 5,000 gallons or having a surface greater than 150 square feet. It is imperative that the proper permits are obtained for all pools, whether the pool will be installed above or below ground level. This DOES include the soft or inflatable wall style that can be purchased at the local department store. There are certain barrier (fencing) and electrical requirements that must be met in order to ensure the safety of all that use the pool, especially your children. Pools are also magnets for neighborhood kids. We want to ensure that none of our people will become a tragic statistic. Unfortunately, as reported in the Realty Times, *“An average of about 250 children under age 5 drowned annually in recent years in swimming pools nationwide. A child can drown in less than five minutes, in two inches of water and not make a sound.”*

Tents are being used more frequently for special occasions or large gatherings. Here again, please be aware of the safety of your family and guests. If you are planning a big outdoor event such as a wedding, graduation party or similar celebration, and you are renting a tent for the occasion, keep in mind the following: if the tent covers an area that is in **excess** of 900 square feet or has an occupant load **exceeding** 50 persons, a building permit shall be required.

What’s a birthday party without a **“moon bounce or rock climbing wall?”** These are two of many that the state of Virginia classifies as amusement devices. If the device is being set up on private property for a private party, a permit is not required. If the devices are on public property (public park, business site, church grounds etc.), permits are required.

When in doubt about the safety of a structure or whether a permit is required, please do not hesitate to call us. We are here to help you, and safety is our number one concern.

We are also gearing up for the future. With the new Administration in the White House focusing on renewable energy and **“Green Construction,”** we are preparing for new projects to come across our counter. With one staff member chairing the Energy Conservation Code Committee for Region 4 of the VBCOA, and others receiving on-going training, we plan to be prepared for the required changes in technology and structure..

In closing I would like remind you that on May 1st 2009, the 2006 ICC model codes and 2005 National Electric Code came into effect. I encourage you to visit our web site at www.culpepercounty.gov and click on Building Department. On this site you will find helpful information, forms and applications, the changes from the 2003 to the 2006 codes and currently a link to an informative video “NFPA 73 Electrical Safety for Homeowners and Home Buyers.”

Have a safe spring and summer.

Robert P. Orr, CBO
Building Official



Ooops! Should have gotten an inspection!



The Busy Person's Guide to Lawn Care

The choices you make in maintaining your lawn can make a real difference in the health of local streams and downstream in the Chesapeake Bay. Indeed, you can help protect the Bay and have a respectable-looking yard by doing virtually nothing at all. Take a minute to consider some easy tips to help simplify lawn care. With all the time you save, you can spend more time on your deck snoozing, watching clouds or enjoying a nice cold beverage.

- 1. Use a Mulching Lawn Mower.** These types of mowers recycle lawn clippings on your yard, help build your soils, and preserve landfill space. According to surveys, nearly 60% of Bay residents practice this form of grass recycling. Using a composting mower can help meet at least a fourth of the nutrient needs of your yard and saves dozens of hours of bagging over the course of a summer. It also reduces the amount of stuff that goes into our landfills.
- 2. Mow Higher and Less Frequently.** You can control weeds by shading them out. Set your mower height to three inches, and you will have both a healthier lawn and fewer weeds. Turf grass experts caution that cutting grass too short is the second leading cause of problem lawns. Be sure to adjust the cutting height come fall, though. This will reduce winter-time diseases.
- 3. Don't Bother with Herbicides; You Really Can't Win.** An average acre of soil contains more than 200 million "weed" seeds in the top six inches of soil, which germinate under the right moisture, light and temperature conditions. Indeed, when you turn over grass and expose the underlying soil, about five percent of these seeds can germinate, or about 250 weeds per square foot. Don't get involved in a battle you can't win, and remember that the naked eye generally cannot distinguish between a perfect lawn and one containing at least a few weeds.
- 4. Take Advantage of a Harsh Winter.** One of the few benefits of a harsh winter is that extreme cold temperatures and frozen ground can greatly increase the mortality of many common insect pests in our region. So, you might want to keep the pesticide applicator in the garage this summer, unless pests become a problem.
- 5. Honey, I Shrunk the Lawn!** A great way to save a lot of time is to try to shrink your yard by about five percent each year. Start with the soggy and/or steep areas that are difficult to mow. Dig out the lawn and replace it with flower and shrub beds. There are many attractive ways to do this. You can lay down three or four inches of mulch and plant some container grown plants. Or visit your local lawn and garden store and buy a meadow seed mix for about \$10. These mixes contain colorful annual and perennial seeds that can attract butterflies and hummingbirds to your home.
- 6. Plant a Fruit Tree or a Native Shrub.** Birds love to eat insects and grubs, so try attracting them by planting native trees or shrubs that produce tasty berries. Then, sit back on your deck and let the birds do the work. Big insect-eaters include bluebirds, cardinals, robins, nuthatches and tufted titmice.
- 7. Select a Good Natural Lawn Care Company.** About 25% of us use the services of a lawn care company to take care of our yards. While it is laudable to have somebody else to do the sweating, a good slacker should insist on a company that uses organic fertilizers and natural pest management techniques. Although just about every lawn care company has the word "green" in its name, this doesn't necessarily mean that it practices environmentally-responsible lawn care.
- 8. Turn Off the Spigot.** Yards have recovered nicely since the drought of 2002. Established lawns will survive a few weeks without rain, so save both money and time by reducing or eliminating lawn watering.

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2009 Rain Barrel Workshops



If you want to conserve water or even lower water costs, a rain barrel is just one step in promoting environmental conservation practices. A rain barrel collects and stores rainwater from your rooftop to use later for things like lawn and garden watering and washing pets. A barrel will save water during peak summer months for use outdoors instead of paying a higher water bill or using your well and electricity. **The barrels are \$55 for one and \$100 for two.**

The Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District has found a new and reliable source of barrels for 2009 workshops. **If you would like to be added to that list, call Stephanie DeNicola at 540-825-8591 or send an e-mail to Stephanie.DeNicola@va.nacdn.net**

For more information about lawn care, best management practices, reporting pollution, moving dirt and other issues regarding soil and water conservation please contact Stephanie Rose DeNicola, Communications Specialist of Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District at (540) 825-8591.

Virginia Cooperative Extension

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University

VirginiaTech

College of Agriculture
and Life Sciences


School of Agriculture
Virginia State University



WHAT IS MY HAY WORTH?

Peter Callan, Extension Agent

Farm Business Management – Agriculture & Natural Resources

A most common question that is received at local extension offices during hay-making season begins with the phrase, “I just baled xx acres of a nice orchard grass – fescue mix.” The initial phrase is followed by the following comment, “What is it worth?”

The price of hay depends on several factors. First, what was the maturity of the hay when it was cut? Early cut hay is soft and palatable, low in fiber, leafy, 15% - 18% protein and high in energy. Late cut or “patriotic hay” is first cutting that is harvested during the last two weeks of June or in early July. “Patriotic hay” is rank, coarse and stemmy, and has low levels of protein and energy. Is the hay free of weeds? Is the hay bright green and leafy, or is the hay dark brown and dusty from having been rained on? Many hay producers see the increase in the number of small-scale pleasure horse operations in the area as an opportunity to sell their high quality hay for a higher price.

Producers need to determine their input costs in pricing the hay. Virginia Tech mixed-hay crop budgets state that each ton of hay removes 50 pounds of nitrogen, 17 pounds of phosphate, and 62 pounds of potash from the soil. At current fertilizer prices, the value of these nutrients in one ton of hay is \$81.00 per ton. Prorated costs to establish the stand are estimated to be \$22 per ton. Harvest costs which include labor, repairs and diesel fuel are estimated to be \$24.00 per ton. Thus a producer has a minimum to \$127.00 in variable costs (out of pocket) to produce one ton of hay.

Machinery costs are often overlooked and not included in determining the hay price. Some producers do not include machinery costs in calculating production costs, because their machinery is already paid for. There is wear and tear on equipment. Eventually the equipment will wear out and will need to be replaced. Producers need to generate sufficient profits to replace the equipment. Virginia Tech hay production budgets have estimated that machinery costs are ~\$36 per ton.

The cost to produce one ton of hay is determined as follows: prorated establishment costs (\$22) + fertilizer costs (\$81) + harvest costs (\$24) + machinery costs (\$36) = \$163. The production cost does not include a rental charge for land used in hay production. There is an opportunity cost for producing hay on the land. Remember if the land was not being used for hay production, the land could be used for pasture or growing crops. For example, when a land rental rate of \$25 per acre is included in production cost, the cost of producing a ton has increased to \$188 per ton.

Equine owners are willing to pay a premium for early cut hay that is soft, leafy, bright green in color, free of weeds and dust. In our area the average range of hay prices is between \$5 and \$6 per small square bale for high quality hay. On the upper end of the price range, it has been reported that there are sales between \$7 - \$8 (only a few). If over 100 bales are purchased at one time, prices are in the \$5 per bale range. Smaller quantities are at the upper end of \$6 per bale range. The size of the small square bales is variable and ranges from 40 pounds to 60 pounds. The value of the high quality hay on a per ton basis is calculated as follows: 2,000 pounds divided by 50 pounds per bale = 40 bales per ton. Hay price at \$5 per bale X 40 bales per ton = \$200 per ton. If the hay is valued at \$6 per bale, then the price increases to \$240 per ton.

Hay quality does not impact production costs. “Patriotic hay” that is cut the first week of July costs the same to grow and harvest as hay that is cut in mid to late May. Cattle producers are the primary market for the “patriotic hay.” In previous years the late cut hay has sold in the \$50 per ton range or less.

Hay producers should consider producing high quality horse hay as a means to increase the profitability of their hay operations. Producers must generate sufficient revenues from hay sales to cover their production costs to insure the long term viability of their businesses.

If you have questions regarding hay production costs, please contact Peter Callan, Farm Business Management Extension Agent, at the Culpeper County Extension office at 540-727-3435.

Culpeper County Extension Office

101 S. West Street, Culpeper, VA 22701 540/727-3435 Fax: 540/727-3451

www.ext.vt.edu/offices/culpeper



4-H SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Cristy Nibblins, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
JoAnna Kilby, 4-H Program Assistant

Hooray!!! Summer is fast-approaching, and it's almost time for 4-H Summer Activities. We can hardly wait to begin the fun. 4-H has so many wonderful opportunities to offer for a fun-filled and inexpensive summer. Whether you are 5 years old or 18 years old, there is something for children of all ages. You are guaranteed to have a blast! More information and registration forms can be found on our website: <http://offices.ext.vt.edu/culpeper> Check it out.

Culpeper-Shenandoah-Rappahannock 4-H Camp

Our 4-H overnight camp is a sure-fire way to end the summer with tons of memories to hold you over until next year. With exciting classes such as rocketry, performing arts, swimming, horse-manship and so much more you will be wishing summer won't end. Afternoons are filled with recreation such as swimming, sports, games, movies and other group activities. With campfire every night it's the perfect end to a perfect summer! Space is limited.

- Date: August 2-6, 2009
- Camp is for boys and girls ages 9-13 (as of 09-30-09)
- Teens (ages 13-18 as of 01-01-09) may apply to be Camp Counselors or Counselors in Training (CITs)
- Located at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal, Virginia.
- Cost is \$205 and includes lodging, 12 meals, a T-shirt, and all activities. A limited number of scholarships, based on financial need, are available.



Cloverbud Day Camp

Our first annual Cloverbud Day Camp is one of the newest additions this year. It is a fun-filled four-day event that is sure to please both parent and child. Every day has a theme and special events provided from organizations in the community, such as "Fun on the Farm" and "Transportation Day." Each day will be filled with arts and crafts, make your own snacks, group games, songs and character development. Each child will leave with a great first impression of 4-H.

- Date: June 23-26, 2009
- Ages 5-8
- Cost is to be determined
- Located at the AG. Enterprises on Rte. 29

4-H Summer Workshops

4-H has a great line-up of exciting 4-H Summer Workshops this year. Something for everyone and every age from 5-18. While not all of the workshops are complete at this time, keep checking our website or call our office at (540) 727-3435.

- **Spa Essentials**
June 22 & 23 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Cost \$10 Limit 8 Ages 9-18
- **Quilting Workshop**
To Be Determined
- **Fishing Workshop**
June 30 – July 2 All other information to be determined
- **Inspired Floral Creations**
July 14-16 1p.m. – 3 p.m. Cost \$10 Limit 8 Ages 9-14
- **Wrap It, Dipp It, Mix It & More!**
July 21 & 22 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Cost \$10 Limit 8 Ages 5-8
- **Horsin' Around with the Rixeyville Riders Horse & Pony 4-H Club**
July 23 & 24 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Cost \$35 Limit 18 Ages 6-12
- **Bike Rodeo**
July 29 & 30 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Cost FREE Limit 10 Ages 9-18
- **Model Rocketry**
July 28 & 29 All other information to be determined

For more information on all these exciting 4-H activities email Cristy Nibblins Nibblins@vt.edu or JoAnna Kilby jklark@vt.edu or call Virginia Cooperative Extension at (540) 727-3435.

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments. Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

From Your Commissioner of the Revenue

Terry L. Yowell



We have moved!

To make sure you visit the correct Division of the Commissioner of the Revenue Office, please read below:

The Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue is no longer located in the Courthouse. Our new location is 151 N. Main Street, Suite 201.

Depending on how long you have been a resident of Culpeper, this building was formerly known as Wachovia Bank, Central Fidelity Bank or, even further back, Culpeper National Bank. Public entrance to the building is on Main Street, and our office is located on the main floor. Limited street parking is available on Main Street and on Cameron Street. There is also parking available in the three hour lot behind the building. Handicapped parking is available in the alley right beside the building.

At this location, you may receive assistance with:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Personal Property Assessment | Public Service Personal Property |
| Business Personal Property Assessment | Machinery and Tools Assessment |
| Bank Franchise | Transient Occupancy/Lodging Tax |
| VA State Income Tax | VA State Estimated Income Tax |

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joe Koontz with Environmental Services, Dianna Catron and staff with County Information Technology and Robin Keagy with Procurement and Communications, for moving us in and setting up our computers and phones over one weekend. Thanks to these folks, and members of my staff, service to the public was not interrupted, and our transition to a new location was almost seamless!

The Commissioner of the Revenue Division of Real Estate Assessment is still located at 118 W. Davis Street, Suite 100 (Old Town Hall).

At this location, you may receive assistance with:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Real Estate Assessment | Public Service Real Property |
| Real Estate Transfers | Rehabilitated Real Estate Program |
| Manufactured Home Assessment | Minerals Assessment |
| Elderly & Disabled Tax Relief Program | Land Use Program |

As always, if you need assistance or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Real Estate Assessments Office
118 W. Davis Street 540-727-3411 8:30-4:30 M-F

Commissioner of the Revenue
151 N. Main Street, Suite 201 540-727-3443 8:30-4:30 M-F

**OFFICE OF THE TREASURER
CULPEPER COUNTY
David L. DeJarnette, Treasurer**

NEW OFFICE LOCATION

The Office of the Treasurer for Culpeper County has moved! After many years of being located on the ground floor of the Culpeper County Courthouse building, the office moved to our new location in the former Culpeper National Bank/Central Fidelity/Wachovia Bank building at 151 N Main Street Culpeper VA (corner of N. Main Street & E. Cameron Street – look for the big square clock).



New County Treasurer & Commissioner of the Revenue Location
at 151 N Main Street Culpeper VA

Please stop by to see our new office location, or you can continue to reach us through our primary mailing address of:

***Culpeper County Treasurer
PO Box 1447
Culpeper VA 22701***

ONLINE TAX PAYMENTS

ONLINE PAYMENTS of Personal Property taxes and Real Estate taxes with credit card or eCheck are now available (2% Convenience Fee added for credit card transactions). Go to web.culpepercounty.gov website & click on “eServices” at top of Home page, then select “eTreasurer”.

Real Estate tax payments require a valid e-mail address and that you select the correct real estate tax bill to be paid by name, account number, tax map parcel number or Department Number/Ticket (Bill) Number. Once selected, proceed to “Checkout” to complete the tax payment.

Personal Property tax payments or inquiries require that you establish a PIN (Personal Identification Number). Click on “Payment Options-Personal Property Tax” or Inquiry Options-PP Public Inquiry.” Then select “To create a PIN or other PIN Options, Click Here.” You may then “Create a New PIN” using your personal identification information and e-mail address. Select your Personal Property tax bill to be paid and proceed to “Checkout”.

Phone: (540) 727-3442 Fax: (540) 727-3478 E-mail: ddejarnette@culpepercounty.gov



Culpeper County Sheriff's Office

JAMES H. BRANCH JR., Sheriff

110 W. Cameron Street • Culpeper, VA 22701

540.727.7520 • EMERGENCY 9-1-1

www.culpepersheriffsoffice.com



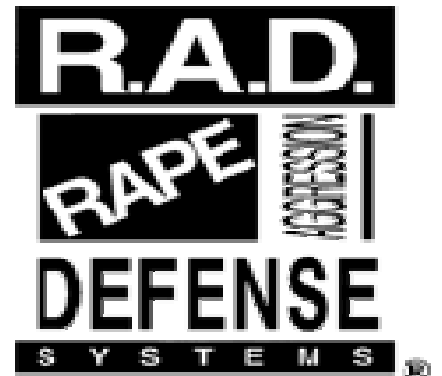
Youth Law Enforcement Academy

The Culpeper County Sheriff's Office Youth Law Enforcement Academy is designed to familiarize young people with the many roles of law enforcement. The week-long camp is available to teenagers 13-17 years old. The program includes basic crime scene investigation and crime scene processing, firearms safety with practice on a live firing range and the effects of alcohol and drugs.

Culpeper County Sheriff's Office will be accepting applications for the summer 2009 Youth Academy through June 15, 2009. For an application call (540) 727-3444 ext. 326.

Rape Aggression Defense Training

The R.A.D. System is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women. The R.A.D. System is a comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance and then progresses on to the basics of hands-on defense training. The Culpeper County Sheriff's Office offers this 9-hour course upon group request, and it is free of charge to Culpeper County residents. For more information contact Missy Robson at (540) 727-3444 ext.301.



Sheriff's Office earns Reaccreditation

On February 18, 2009, Sheriff Branch went before the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission for review of the results of their recent on-site reaccreditation inspection. Culpeper County Sheriff's Office was found in compliance with all applicable standards necessary to maintain an accredited status.

On April 07, 2009, Gary Dillon, with the Department of Criminal Justice Services, and Sheriff Charles E. Jett, Stafford County, presented Sheriff James H. Branch Jr. with the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission Reaccreditation Certificate.

Have you become physically and/or verbally abusive to your spouse or significant other?

Help is available.

**Contact Culpeper County Criminal Justice Services at 540-727-3450
for a referral to a treatment provider.**

Culpeper Regional Airport

by Tanya Woodward, Manager

Welcome Spring!!!!

It's all about FLYING—I don't know about everyone else, but we here at the Airport are ready for some good flying weather. While the General Aviation Corporate traffic is still active during the very cold winter months, the General Aviation Recreational Pilot is less active. The pilots seem to come out of hiding with the nice weather. The beautiful planes are getting shined up, and you hear a constant chatter on the Unicom and the giddiness that ensues after a good day of flying. The Airport has quite a buzz about it, during the nicer days, that just makes you feel good whether you fly or not.



Could this be your next ride?
Is the wild blue yonder your next frontier?
Come out to the Airport and try a lesson.

Airport SERVICES—As we are gearing up for spring and summer, our hours will be changing on May 25th, Memorial Day.

Our Spring/Summer hours will be:

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Friday - Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

We accommodate all facets of General Aviation. Come and check out White Hawk Aviation Flight School and the special they are currently running.



Donnie Devers

Support PERSONNEL—I would also like to send kudos out to two of our Line Service Techs who received recognition from the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors for over 10 years of service. Way to go Donnie and Tim! We take pride in the service and security that we

provide our renters, and employee retention is key to this continuity.



Tim Beale

On-SITE—Our based Airplane Museum, The National Capitol Squadron (NCS), is gearing up for air shows this year along with their open house the second Saturday of every month.

I would also like to report that they were recognized by their main headquarters with a Distinguished Unit Award for 2008.

This award recognizes the continuing efforts and successes achieved by every one in the NCS, and we congratulate them on their award. They keep aviation history alive and truly have a knack of being able to bring the experience of aviation to the non-aviators.

Special EVENT—Let us not forget the major event coming October 10, 2009, our 10th, yes 10th, Annual Air Fest. We are planning a fantastic show for you this year and as always the admission will be free to the public. If you would like to be involved as a volunteer or to be a show sponsor, please send me an email at culpeperairport@hotmail.com

Mark your calendar and join us October 10th
for a day of fun and appreciation of pilots, planes
and the world of aviation.

STOP DREAMING.
START FLYING.

BE A PILOT

Introductory Flight Special:
\$25
Regular Price \$45

WHITE HAWK AVIATION
www.whitehawkaviation.net
540-727-8433

Culpeper County Board of Supervisors

Culpeper Minutes

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dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov

C'mon Down to Culpeper Regional Airport!
Regular events include Open House every second Saturday—National Capitol Squadron
And the upcoming TENTH annual Air Fest - the big free show!!!



Photo courtesy of NCS website

The National Capitol Squadron of the Commemorative Air Force invites you to Culpeper Regional Airport to see the planes and talk to the pilots—every second Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

If you would like to find out more about the NCS, please call 1-540-727-0018 or check out www.nationalcapitolsquadron.org

On the left is the Stinson L-5 , the most widely-used allied utility plane in WWII. On the right is the Vultee BT-13A, used to train pilots throughout WWII.



Photo by Don Weeks, courtesy of NCS website

Saturday, October 10th, 2009
TENTH ANNUAL AIR FEST Culpeper Regional Airport 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

This FREE event has something for the entire family.

Tour the County Airport. Talk with the pilots about their planes and enjoy free airplane rides for ages 8-17, provided by the Young Eagles program. Aircraft, from restored antiques to modern jets, will be on display. Don't miss the Bealeton Flying Circus and their spectacular wing-walking event or the display of flight with Remote-Controlled Model Airplanes. Dr. Smoke, in his Marchetti, and others will be performing in the afternoon.

Come out and see the many WarBirds including the Percival Provost, a Royal Air Force Trainer, based here at Culpeper.

For the youngest visitors, we will have face painting and the very popular model airplane simulator. The simulator allows you to experience flight while keeping your feet firmly on the ground.

Plenty of hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecue and smoothies will be available for the lunch crowd.

On Friday the 9th, from 3:30p.m. – 5:30p.m. be sure to check the sky for the airplane towing a banner announcing the Air Fest on Saturday. This is especially fun for children to spot, as it goes slowly enough to provide a good view.

Culpeper Airport is located approximately 9 miles North of the Town of Culpeper off Rt. 29. Turn left at the stop light and follow the signs. For more information call (540) 825-8280 or visit the County website at: www.culpepercounty.gov

Telephone Number for Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT): 540-829-7500
To report Road Hazards or Snow-Flood Conditions: 800-367-7623 Toll Free